

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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62

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 EB-11

AGR-20 IO-14 H-03 DRC-01 /128 W

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R 250307Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9292

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 12592

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ID

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY RE DETENTION OF PROFESSOR

BAKRI SIREGAR

REF: A. JAKARTA 12266; B. JAKARTA 10911;(C. STATE 200039;

B. STATE 209285

1. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US PROFESSOR BAKRI SIREGAR IS A MARXIST AUTHOR AND LITERARY CRITIC WHO WAS ACTIVE IN THE INDONESIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PKI) AFFAIRS IN MEDAN NORTH SUMATRA, AND ALSO A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PKI. HE WAS REPORTEDLY ARRESTED IN 1967, AT WHICH TIME HE WAS ONE OF THE KEY INDIVIDUALS TRYING TO REORGANIZE THE PKI IN JAKARTA. WE BELIEVE THAT HE IS CURRENTLY ON BURU ISLAND, WHERE APPROXIMATELY 10,000 "B" CATEGORY POLITICAL PRISONERS ARE DETAINED, INCLUDING A NUMBER OF WELL-KNOWN INTELLECTUALS. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON HIS HEALTH AND SPIRITS.

2. SUGGEST THAT YOU CONVEY TO SENATOR CRANSTON ABOVE INFORMATION PLUS FACTUAL BACKGROUND ON GOI'S EFFORT TO DETAL WITH PRISONER PROBLEM (REFTELS A AND B) (EXCISING COMMENT AND SPECULATIVE PORTIONS). YOU SHOULD ADD THAT THE EMBASSY HAS REPEATEDLY MADE THE GOI AWARE OF WORLD INTEREST, INCLUDING US, IN THE PRISONER QUESTION. FYI: LATEST

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INFORMATION IS THAT SUMITRO VISIT TO BURU IS RESULTING IN

SIGNIFICANT REVIEW OF PRISONER POLICY BUT IT MAY BE SOME TIME
BEFORE WE KNOW RESULTS AND THEY COULD TAKE YEARS TO IMPLEMENT.
GALBRAITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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TAGS: PINS, ID
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